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Daily Report

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Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Ethiopia

Mengistu Reshuffles Cabinet; Appointments Named

EA0811202789 Addis Ababa Domestic Service
in Amharic 1700 GMT 8 Nov 89

[Text] Today, Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee, president of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, and commander in chief of the revolutionary Armed Forces, made a number of appointments. He has also retired some officials. In this respect:

Comrade Berhanu Bayeh, Political Bureau member of the WPE Central Committee and foreign minister, becomes vice president of the State Council;

Comrade Teka Tulu, alternate Political Bureau member of the WPE Central Committee and chairman of the WPE Central Audit Commission, is retired for health reasons;

Comrade Tesfaye Dinka, alternate Political Bureau member of the WPE Central Committee and deputy prime minister, adds the Foreign Ministry portfolio;

Comrade Debela Dinsa, member of the WPE Central Committee and a vice president of the State Council is retired for health reasons;

Comrade Lema Gutema, member of the WPE Central Committee and ambassador plenipotentiary to the GDR, becomes a vice president of the State Council;

Comrade Wole Chekol, member of the WPE Central Committee and Finance Minister, becomes head of the Finance and Economic Services Sector at the State Council with the rank of deputy prime minister.

TPLF Denounces VOA 'Distortions'

EA0811212489 (Clandestine) Voice of the Tigray
Revolution in Amharic to Ethiopia 0400 GMT 8 Nov 89

[Text] The Amharic service of the U.S. imperialists' radio, the Voice Of America, VOA, has continued deliberately distorting genuine news broadcasts on Voice of the Tigray Revolution, in line with its antipeople and antirevolution nature. In a news bulletin the day before yesterday, 6 November 1989, the VOA broadcast the following:

[Begin VOA announcer recording in Amharic] The forces of the Tigray People's Liberation Front [TPLF] forces say that they have captured Mehal Meda Province, around Menz, in Shewa region. [end recording]

In this way they continue their usual distortions, by deliberately announcing what has not been announced. To confirm the VOA distortion clearly, let us listen to a passage from the Voice of the Tigray Revolution [VTR] news item word for word:

[Begin announcer recording] The heroic peoples' forces of the Ethiopian Peoples Revolutionary Democratic Front, [EPRDF], with the full support of the masses, is continuing its victorious operation in the central part of the country, with a view to accomplishing its mission of ensuring peace and democracy at a national level. Accordingly, it has captured Kara Michik, a key position in northern Shewa, and hoisted its peace flag in Shewa region. [end recording]

This is what we said. As we stated, the VTR news item shows that the EPRDF forces captured a place called Kara Michik, in Mehal Meda Province. However, the VOA, allegedly quoting the VTR, spreads lies, as though the whole of Mehal Meda Province had been captured.

This is not the first time the VOA has distorted genuine news. In the recent past, the VOA, in a manner similarly telling a naked lie, alleged that the TPLF said it had captured Weldiya, while the TPLF had never claimed to have captured Weldiya.

The VOA does not limit itself to this. It distorts various other news. The VOA, which is the instrument of American imperialism, considering the EPRDF forces as Tigray [word indistinct] forces only, announces the capture of uncaptured places so as to distort the genuine activities of the EPRDF, to fulfill its imperialist (?aims). The Ethiopian people should realize that this is one of the machinations that imperialism and its quislings use against the democratic forces and peoples of Ethiopia.

Deputy Premier Denies Development Projects Halted

EA0811214089 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring
Countries 1600 GMT 8 Nov 89

[Text] Comrade Tesfaye Dinka has described as incorrect the views that are being disseminated to the effect that all development projects are completely halted due to the war our country is engaged in with the weyane [Tigray People's Liberation Front] group in order to safeguard the unity and security of our country.

Comrade Tesfaye Dinka, alternate Political Bureau member of the Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee and deputy prime minister, stated this in a press statement to foreign journalists today.

Comrade Tesfaye noted that it had been reported that Ethiopia had halted development projects and was utilizing the money for war purposes. He went on to say that this issue had at no time been stated by the National Shengo in its session or in subsequent resolutions which were adopted and in the report by the comrade president. He added that in its resolution in this regard, the Shengo gave a mandate to the State Council to revise from time to time this year's budget based on the general development of the country and to effect its implementation.

In the statement, Comrade Tesfaye noted that calling for the speedy implementation of development projects in line with the National Shengo's plan, budget, and plan of

action approved at its third regular meeting, Comrade President Mengistu Haile Mariam had at no time in his opening speech at the Shengo session pointed out that projects could not be carried out. Comrade Tesfaye went on to say that unless the projects need special follow-up in their implementation, all development projects will be carried out as intended. The deputy prime minister said that though we are forced to give our time and efforts to safeguard our country's unity and security in particular in the ongoing war with the weyane groups, all development projects planned for this year and all other important projects will be implemented.

Comrade Tesfaye said that in order to safeguard their national unity, the Ethiopian people have been called [words indistinct] and the people have expressed their readiness to pay sacrifices.

Kenya

Nairobi University Closed After Riots

AB0911080089 Paris AFP in English 0737 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] Nairobi, Nov 9 (AFP)—The authorities here have closed indefinitely the trouble-prone University of Nairobi after students rioted Wednesday night over "poor facilities," the Voice of Kenya radio announced.

It quoted the vice-chancellor, Professor Philip Mbithi, as ordering that all students should vacate the campus Thursday morning. Meanwhile the DAILY NATION reported that the rioting students had stoned passing vehicles. They were protesting at the deteriorating accommodation facilities, the paper said.

It also reported that the students had boycotted their supper when they realised that the baked egg, popularly known as "the ball," was missing from the menu.

According to the DAILY NATION, the students also complained of "an alarming security lapse" in the halls of residence. Efforts by Prof. Mbithi to quell the students were fruitless as they constantly shouted him down, it said.

Other sources said however that the students were demonstrating against the proposed construction of a 60-storey building on a recreational park in central Nairobi, a move which has also provoked the wrath of local environmentalists.

The radio announcement said students should go straight to their homes and report to local government officials twice a week—Mondays and Fridays. The university was closed two years ago, and has been shut down 18 times since the establishment was founded in 1970.

It was closed on November 16, 1987 after two days of clashes between students and police following the arrest of their newly-elected leaders who had called a meeting at which the government was criticised.

University authorities then dissolved the students body, expelled 43 students and disciplined 52 others. At a court hearing of the arrested student leader, Robert Wafula Buke, it was stated that he had received 1,235 dollars from the Libyan Government for his election campaign as the chairman of the Students Organisation of Nairobi University (SONU).

Further on Closure

EA0911091089 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] The University of Nairobi has been closed following students' disturbances. The students went on the rampage yesterday. A release issued by the vice chancellor of the university, Prof Phillip Mbithi, directs that all students at the main campus were supposed to have cleared and vacated the university premises by 0700 this morning.

The affected students are from the faculties of arts, design and development, engineering, law and Institute of African Studies, and also architecture. Professor Mbithi said the students were required to report to chiefs twice a week on Mondays and Fridays from tomorrow, with immediate effect until further notice.

Tanzania

Mwinyi Urges More U.S. Sanctions Against RSA

EA0811214589 Dar es Salaam in Swahili 1700 GMT 8 Nov 89

[Text] Dodoma—President Ali Hassan Mwinyi has called on the United States to cooperate with African countries in their bid to force the Boer regime of South Africa to bring about peace and democracy in that country. President Mwinyi issued the statement in Dodoma today when he met Mr Herman Cohen, the U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs, who is currently touring African countries. Mr Cohen arrived in Dodoma from Nairobi and met President Mwinyi at the state lodge in town.

President Mwinyi also urged the international community, and the United States in particular, to impose more sanctions against the Boer regime. He said the United States should not relax the sanctions against the Boer regime, for what was happening in South Africa proved that the regime was suffering more and more from sanctions. Comrade Mwinyi also briefed Mr Cohen about the ongoing talks between the government and the IMF on loans for Tanzania.

Transkei Lifts State of Emergency 7 Nov

*MB0811171089 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1709 GMT 8 Nov 89*

[Text] Umtata Nov 8 SAPA—The Transkei government on Tuesday [7 November] lifted the state of emergency in effect in the homeland since June 30 this year, a statement from the Office of the Military Council said. All the emergency regulations connected to the state of emergency have also been withdrawn.

A number of organisations deemed unlawful in 1979, 1984, 1986 and 1988 have been unbanned. They are: the Black Power Movement, the Black Peoples Convention, Black Community Programmes Limited, the Maluti Lesotho Organisation, the African People's Democratic Union of South Africa, and the South African Students Movement.

The Military Council statement said the Transkei government was "committed to promoting dialogue aimed at the creation of a climate of change in southern Africa." The government constantly reviewed the law that stood in the way of this objective.

"The government also realises that without a commitment to the promotion of the freedom of speech, association and movement, the attainment of its objectives will be well nigh impossible," said the statement, signed by Mr G. Zwakala, press liaison officer for the military council.

Other organisations unbanned are: the Zimele Trust Fund, the South-West African People's Organisation, the Azanian People's Organisation, the Azanian Students Organisation, the Congress of South African students, the United Democratic Front, the SA Allied Workers Union, the Herschel Youth Congress and the Prisoners Welfare Programme. Sixteen other organisations had previously been unbanned by the council.

Three Executed at Pretoria Central Prison 9 Nov

*MB0911080889 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0804 GMT 9 Nov 89*

[Text] Pretoria Nov 9 SAPA—Three men were hanged at Pretoria Central Prison on Thursday [9 November], bringing the total number of people executed so far in South Africa this year to 52. Sixty condemned people have been reprieved.

Those hanged today were David Mbusana Shongwe, 40, Tembinkosi Welcome Booi, 31 and Boy-Boy Booi, 22. Shongwe was found guilty by a judge and assessors at Witbank on April 7 this year of the murder of a 25-year-old man, and on April 10 the court found there were no extenuating circumstances and sentenced him to death. According to the post mortem, the deceased died on multiple injuries, which included four stab wounds.

The Booi brothers were sentenced to death for murder with no extenuating circumstances in the Port Elizabeth Supreme Court on September 28 1988 following the

death of a four-year-old girl in June 1987 at Bluewater Bay, Port Elizabeth. According to the evidence, they were surprised by the girl and her mother while they were burgling the home where the elder brother had been employed as a gardener.

The girl was taken to the main bedroom and stabbed with a knife the younger brother had picked up in the garden. The mother was also assaulted and stabbed. The girl was stabbed once in the neck, severe bleeding causing her death.

Passport Granted to Released Prisoner Mpetha

*MB0911102789 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1025 GMT 9 Nov 89*

[Text] Pretoria Nov 9 SAPA—A passport had been granted to recently released security prisoner Oscar Mpetha, 80, so that he could visit relatives in the UK, the minister of home affairs, Mr Gene Louw, said in Pretoria on Thursday [9 November].

NEW NATION Editor Reacts to Closure Threat

*MB0411162989 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1533 GMT 4 Nov 89*

[Text] Johannesburg Nov 4 SAPA—The acting editor of NEW NATION, Mr Gabu Tugwana, said on Saturday he believed the government's threat to close NEW NATION was an attempt to re-assert its authority and pander to conservative elements in the National Party.

Mr Tugwana said in a statement that a large portion of the warning dealt with the newspaper's coverage of the different perspectives on negotiations and the coverage of the recently released ANC [African National Congress] leaders.

"We find it contradictory that while the government releases the peoples leaders unconditionally, it nevertheless seeks to stop what these leaders are saying from reaching the people.

"Certainly we are baffled by the warning and believe that it is unreasonable and unjustified, especially as it comes at a time when there is talk that media regulations under the state of emergency may be lifted." The NEW NATION was having a series of consultations with its lawyers to prepare a possible response to the warning, he said.

The possibility of an extensive campaign locally and internationally, to highlight the plight of the NEW NATION and the media in general in South Africa, was also being considered.

SUNDAY STAR on Threatened Closure

*MB0511131689 Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR
in English 5 Nov 89 p 2*

[Report by Sarah Sussens]

[Text] The threatened closure of the Catholic newspaper NEW NATION is out of line with the Government's new strategy and could signify Cabinet dissension, according to a top legal academic.

Johan van der Vyver, professor of law at the University of the Witwatersrand, said the De Klerk administration had created a climate of general optimism which reached into African National Congress [ANC] circles.

He said Minister of Home Affairs Gene Louw's warning to NEW NATION that it might be suspended or censored under the emergency regulations could signify that President F.W. de Klerk did not have the full backing of his Cabinet.

"If the Government want to solve South Africa's problems by entering into an era of negotiation, it is of primary importance to allow all and sundry to express their views," he said.

"The silencing of any political opinion goes against the grain of an atmosphere of negotiation. People should be allowed to express their views publicly so the debate can get off the ground."

Mr Louw has taken issue with 11 editions of NEW NATION published since July. These contain 32 articles which, in Mr Louw's view, either gave positive publicity to banned or restricted organisations, fomented hostility to the security forces or threatened public order by discrediting the judiciary. One of the articles deemed "subversive propaganda" is about the ANC's attitudes toward negotiation, providing insights into the questions of preconditions, mechanisms for negotiations, time-scale, foreign participation and a transition period after successful negotiations.

The Minister objected on the basis that it promoted the public image of an unlawful organisation, by "publishing statements by this organisation on the issue of negotiation in such a way that it gives positive publicity to the ANC."

Articles singled out by Mr Louw include one containing a statement that negotiations would not take the place of the armed struggle or mass defiance, and another in which the Mass Democratic Movement calls on all organisations to ignore their restrictions.

In an article published in the second volume of the Harvard Human Rights Yearbook, South African lawyer Gilbert Marcus discussed the implications of closing NEW NATION and said it had proved to be a futile exercise last time.

He wrote that the three-month closure of the newspaper last year did not make the ANC disappear nor was the populace inculcated with any greater respect for the security forces. Press censorship of this kind could not achieve public safety and could even be counter-productive from the State's point of view since "it becomes increasingly difficult for government officials themselves to be adequately informed about the extent

of abuse of authority, the gravity of social problems and other matters which cannot be freely reported.

"From the point of view of white South Africans, censorship of this kind is particularly dangerous, for it is they who are deliberately kept ignorant of black aspirations and of measures taken in their name to suppress protest."

THE STAR Editor Criticizes Media Regulations

MB0711143789 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1400 GMT 7 Nov 89

[Text] The editor of THE STAR newspaper, Harvey Tyson, says the media emergency regulations are confusing and difficult to comply with. His comments come after police asked him to provide them with information about the organization of the ANC [African National Congress] welcome-home rally in Soweto. Tyson says he cannot provide information about those who advertised the rally in his paper unless he is convinced a real crime has been committed. He says the media regulations are illogical.

[Begin Tyson recording] There is no logic in anything that is happening with [words indistinct] media at present. There are all kinds of laws that have been broken both by television and the newspapers, sometimes deliberately, sometimes by accident, because the laws, several laws, are really quite impossible to meet and are quite illogical, too. There is no logic to how this word indistinct] is going.

Charging of Journalists Termed 'New Trend'

MB0811064489 Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English
3 Nov 89 p 5

[Text] A new trend had developed in the past couple of months whereby editors, journalists and publishers had been charged and brought to court, the Human Rights Commission [HRC] said yesterday.

"There are at least six trials in the Transvaal and the Western Cape involving newspapers which have allegedly contravened the emergency media regulations, the Internal Security Act and the Prisons regulations. The police have advised other newspapers that charges against them are being investigated," the HRC said in a statement.

The editor of the Oudtshoorn-based community newspaper SAAMSTAAN, Mr Derek Jackson, was charged this week with contempt of court in connection with an article published in June 1989 about the sentences passed on two policemen found guilty of murdering activist Mr Andile "Ace" Kobe, who died of injuries received in police custody in May 1988.

After quoting both the Human Rights Commission and Lawyers for Human Rights, the article commented on the seemingly light sentences, noting that many South Africans were sceptical about the role of the South African judiciary.

"It would appear from the charges against Mr Jackson that commenting or arising an opinion, even though this might represent the view of many people, is not tolerated by the state," the HRC said. The HRC said that continued action against SAAMSTAAN "seems to be taking on the appearance of a vendetta".

Worrall Criticizes Press 'Harassment'

*MB0811104789 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0921 GMT 8 Nov 89*

[Text] Cape Town Nov 8 SAPA—The state of emergency should be lifted and increasing press harassment halted, Democratic Party [DP] co-leader Dr Denis Worrall demanded on Wednesday [8 November].

Dr Worrall was reacting to increased government action against newspapers in recent weeks—taken in spite of an urgent government investigation into the possibility of lifting or easing the media restrictions.

He said the harassment of newspapers was the first indication that the F.W. de Klerk administration was having trouble meeting expectations created by its rhetoric of reform. "Deep inside the De Klerk administration there are people who do not like what he and Mr Pik Botha and Dr Gerrit Vrolijk are saying."

Dr Worrall said the DP believed press freedom was essential. South Africans needed access to all points of view to decide their future, and they were mature enough to judge what was relevant or not.

Anticensorship Group Berates Media 'Hounding'

*MB0811131389 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1300 GMT 8 Nov 89*

[Text] Johannesburg Nov 8 SAPA—The hounding of editors Edwin Linington of SAPA and Harvey Tyson of THE STAR under Section 205 of the Criminal Procedures Act for information which is freely available, makes a mockery of state President F.W. de Klerk's "open door" policy. This was said by the Anti-Censorship Action Group in a statement issued in Johannesburg on Wednesday.

"These actions coupled with the spate of prosecutions against editors and publications and the threat to close the NEW NATION is a new process of harassment and intimidation which is totally out of keeping with the conciliatory climate which all sides in the South African conflict are purportedly trying to bring about.

"We regret our warning that this form of harassment makes a mockery of the state president's open door policy. There can be no open door if only some views are permitted to be published," the group said.

Media Workers Hold Annual Congress

*MB0711111189 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1053 GMT 7 Nov 89*

[Text] Johannesburg Nov 7 SAPA—The 10th annual congress of the Media Workers Association of South Africa [MWASA] held at Strandfontein, Cape Town, was postponed for six months to give regions more time to discuss constitutional amendments.

A statement from MWASA said the postponement came after all regions agreed that the membership clause in the constitution be returned to the regions for further discussions.

The two-day congress was opened by the union president, Sandra Nagfaal. Dullar Omar, the western Cape regional chairperson of the UDF [United Democratic Front], was the guest speaker. The NACTU [National Council of Trade Unions] general secretary, Pirashaw Camay, also addressed the congress. More than 600 delegates from the six regions of MWASA attended the congress. No date was fixed for the continuation.

Defense Minister Says Threats to Peace Persist

*MB0811103589 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0916 GMT 8 Nov 89*

[Text] Pretoria Nov 8 SAPA—South Africa should always remain on the alert and ready to combat the threat of terrorism, the minister of defence, Gen Magnus Malan, said in Pretoria Electronics 21st anniversary dinner; he said it was reality that South Africa and southern Africa had not entered an era of perpetual peace. "The threats to peace and stability may today be changing, but they've not vanished."

The situation made the preparedness, readiness and motivation of South Africa's security forces vital. Economic growth and political progress could only blossom in conditions of security, stability and a peaceful environment. The country should always be alert to combat terrorism.

"Terrorism of any kind is against all values that civilised and responsible people hold in common.

"Terrorism and violence are means no end can justify," Gen Malan said.

"In our case this is true of the ANC [African National Congress], which remains uncommitted to a peaceful process, which excludes violence."

Van Heerden Favors Regional Interests Conference

*MB0311181089 Johannesburg International Service
in English 1600 GMT 3 Nov 89*

[Text] The director general of foreign affairs, Mr Neil van Heerden, says that South Africa favors a regional conference to promote the joint interests of southern African countries. He was speaking at Sun City, during a conference of the Institute for Personnel Management.

Mr Van Heerden said South Africa had the economic power and infrastructure to form the cornerstone of regional development. He said that South Africa believed that Africa has to solve its own problems without the use of violence.

South Africa was expanding its ties with countries south of the Sahara, and industrialized countries in the northern hemisphere could prepare to play a role in a prosperous and stable southern Africa in the next decade.

Denis Worrall Urges Action on Peelton Issue

*MB0611173489 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1541 GMT 6 Nov 89*

[Text] Cape Town November 6 SAPA—Democratic Party co-leader Dr Dennis Worrall on Monday [6 November] made representations to the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, and the minister of constitutional development, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, urging them to take immediate action on the Peelton issue.

Dr Worrall said in a statement issued here after a weekend visit to the beleaguered eastern Cape village that he told the ministers it was important that a high-level and categorical statement be issued on the Republic's obligations to South African citizens in the area.

"Secondly, I have called upon Mr Botha and Dr Viljoen to demand of President Sebe (President of Ciskei), into which Peelton is being incorporated) that he immediately release the approximately 80 community leaders, all of whom are South African citizens and whom he has detained.

"And thirdly, I have urged Mr Botha and Dr Viljoen to visit the area and discuss the issues with the persons concerned as a pre-requisite for any practical solution." In essence the issue in Peelton was a humanitarian one. But there clearly were domestic political and—with the Common Market countries statement last week—also international political dimensions.

"The fact of the matter is that where the world, and South African, are watching West Germany's open-armed welcome of refugees from a repressive social and political system in East Germany, South Africa is denying the existence of its own citizens in Peelton.

"That, at any rate, is how the residents of Peelton see the matter," said Dr Worrall. By its effective non-response to the plight of the 800 refugees from Peelton who were now sheltering in King William's Town, and the destruction of their homes, the South African Government made itself guilty of complicity in the Ciskei's jack-booted treatment of South African citizens.

Buthelezi Praises De Klerk Leadership

*MB0711201989 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2003 GMT 7 Nov 89*

[Text] Ulundi Nov 7 SAPA—The chief minister of KwaZulu and Inkatha leader, Chief Mangosuthu

Buthelezi, on Tuesday [7 November] spoke favourably about President F.W. de Klerk and said the present situation in South Africa was not the same as it was at the time of Mozambique's or Zimbabwe's independence.

Dr Buthelezi, speaking at a dinner in Ulundi hosted by the Old Mutual company, said the world saw the ANC [African National Congress] as a "liberation movement coming home to form a government."

But he said there were no prospects for a revolutionary movement bringing the South African Government to the point where it has to sue for peace as in Mozambique and Rhodesia. "There will be no final and definitive military advantage to revolutionaries in South Africa as there was in both Mozambique and Angola," he said, adding it was such a military advantage that brought the Portuguese and Mozambican Governments and the Rhodesian Government to the point where they had to negotiate "for humanitarian reasons."

These governments knew they were beaten by the revolutionaries and it was vital for them to capitulate, "before they were put into the revolutionary shredding machine." Dr Buthelezi went on: "nobody in their right mind would look at Mr F.W. de Klerk and say he is doing what he is doing because he is driven to despair and is trying to capitulate in order to save lives in South Africa.

"Behind Mr de Klerk there is a very vast as yet hardly used military and state might that could be employed to not quite perpetuate, but certainly greatly prolong, the balance of power in the state-revolutionary equilibrium."

He said Mr de Klerk was the first state president who appeared to be facing up to the fact that the politics of prescription had ended. "Mr De Klerk's predecessor did not consult any blacks when he established an entirely new political constitution for South Africa. He did not consult any blacks before he disbanded the old provincial council system and replaced it with what really are despised regional services councils.

"We were not consulted when the South African Government formed the homeland policy which has caused such political strife for so long." He added that so far Mr de Klerk had not been seen to make major decisions without any form of consultation. "My guess is that in the very first year of his presidency, Mr de Klerk will at least attempt to set matters right.

"Mr de Klerk cannot succeed without blacks and I, as a black, cannot succeed without whites. Both he and I must give effect to the already established fact that political interdependence between black and white must follow the already irreversible economic interdependence that there already is," Dr Buthelezi said, adding that the president must succeed in doing "not what whites want—but what blacks now demand" in South Africa.

"Inkatha can survive the traumas of the emergence of a one-party socialist state. ... South Africa's captains of

industry, however, face the future knowing that if Mr de Klerk fails, if the politics of negotiation fail, if white politics does not replace Mr de Klerk when he fails, if he fails, with somebody who will not fail, free enterprise has no future whatsoever.

Buthelezi Discusses ANC's Future Role

*MB0611161589 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1518 GMT 6 Nov 89*

[Text] Ulundi Nov 6 SAPA—Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi said on Monday [6 November] he would be "overjoyed" if the ANC [African National Congress] returned to take its place as one of the political parties with the right to go to the South African people and seek to become a government.

But this was unlikely, the KwaZulu chief minister and Inkatha president told eminent Belgian writer/historian Dr Steven Debroey. Nowhere in the world did revolutionaries struggle to establish a one-party democracy in which they were simply among the contenders for power, he said.

On the prospect of the ANC returning to join other contenders for power, Dr Buthelezi said, "I will certainly not be the one that makes this unlikely state of affairs impossible. However, I will also not be the one who lays himself down before the ANC's war machine to be left mangled and trampled upon in the ANC's forward march to supremacy over all."

Stirring events would be happening in the next unfolding of South African history and there was more fluidity than ever before, but the one certainty was that there was no prospect at all of a return to Verwoerdian apartheid.

President F.W. de Klerk would sink or swim by his ability to establish a new government based on a universal adult franchise system. All races had now to join in removing apartheid and establishing a democracy. Inkatha would be made available for this, and he intended leading it with this purpose in mind, Dr Buthelezi said.

Buthelezi Appeals for National Reconciliation

*MB0811142389 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1358 GMT 8 Nov 89*

[SAPA PR Wire Service; issued by the Chief Minister's Office, Ulundi]

[Text] [No dateline as received]—Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi today cautioned the outside world against likening South Africa to pre-independence Zimbabwe or Mozambique. This country was not dominated by expatriates who had nowhere to go when the going got tough, he told a large group of religious broadcasters visiting the KwaZulu capital. "A great many in the outside world regard South Africa as some kind of blown-up version of Zimbabwe or Mozambique" he said in a memorandum for discussion.

"They see revolutionaries in exile returning home to become a government returned from exile, and they make the analytically fatal error of judgment of looking at white society in South Africa as they looked at white society, say, in Zimbabwe.

"White South Africa is not dominated by expatriates who can be repatriated or who have somewhere to go when the going gets tough. South Africa is, for whites in the country, an end-of-the-line country. It is a live, do or die country."

Dr Buthelezi made a plea for national reconciliation. History had taught him that where victories were achieved at the expense of this (in countries where supreme national effort was needed to make democracy work), "terrible disaster" followed.

Religious broadcasters had a most important role to play wherever they were. "But broadcasts beamed to South African listeners on every side of every political fence now need to carry a message of hope because the divine call is for reconciliation."

Commentary Criticizes ANC View of Negotiations

*MB0811052789 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 0500 GMT 8 Nov 89*

[Station Commentary]

[Text] It is now generally accepted that the African National Congress [ANC] must be one of the parties to the negotiations that must eventually take place on a new political and constitutional dispensation. But the fact that the ANC is only one of several parties that can claim to represent black or other constituencies has become increasingly clear of late. Political observers have noted, for example, that the rally at Soccer City to welcome seven released ANC members attracted a relatively small crowd—fewer people one columnist pointed out than a good soccer match would have drawn to the same stadium.

If the ANC wishes to be counted as a serious negotiator on a new dispensation, however, its leadership needs to address two worrying issues: the question of violence and the ANC position on communism. The leadership of the ANC has thus far refused to forswear violence as a political strategy. The pretext is that the government must first eliminate state violence, perceived to be present in the state of emergency, the presence of troops in the townships and other law and order measures.

This is a counterproductive approach that threatens to place insurmountable obstacles on the road to negotiations. The authorities are working towards a steady relaxation of law and order measures necessitated by political unrest, including the state of emergency. The simple fact, however, is that all such law and order measures will become unnecessary and can be abolished once political unrest is reduced to absolute minimum levels. But for that to happen, there must also be contributions from political organizations such as the ANC.

While political demands are part and parcel of the negotiation process, there is also need for realistic and sincere assessments of the current situation in the country. The question of violence is a crucial factor here. The present tactics of the ANC—to insist on a set of demands and preconditions while maintaining a blanket refusal to consider alternatives or compromises—threatens to stall the prospects for a normalization of the political situation in South Africa.

A second area that the leadership of the ANC must address is its position on communism. The prevalence of the red flag at political protest rallies in South Africa comes at a time when communism is being discredited in Eastern Europe and its African equivalent has brought disaster to a number of countries. Several overseas publications have remarked on the fact that while the image of communism is tarnished in eastern Europe, it is being promoted in street protests in South Africa—by courtesy of the ANC, among others.

In the negotiations that lie ahead, all parties must be free to advance and promote their political policies and philosophies. But if a new, true, and lasting democracy is to be built in South Africa, there can be no place for communism—not only because it has proved to be a failure in Europe and in Africa, but because it aims, as a chief objective, to destroy democracy itself.

ANC Document on Economic Policy 'Vague'

*MB0811094289 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY
in English 8 Nov 89 p 2*

[Report by Mike Robertson]

[Text] The ANC [African National Congress] believes the only way to eliminate poverty in SA is to pursue economic policies which communist parties in eastern Europe are rejecting and the Labour party, which brought large scale nationalisation to Britain, has abandoned.

In a document targeted at white South Africans now being circulated in SA, the ANC commits itself to "bringing the commanding heights of the economy under democratic control".

Like much of the ANC's writings on economic issues the document is vague as to whether this means large scale nationalisation or state intervention in the economy through regulation.

However, whatever it envisages, ANC interventionism goes much further than that favoured by socialists in Western Europe who now believe the state's role in the economy should be restricted to control of utilities and essential public services.

In the document the ANC says that under its rule the commanding heights of the economy will be brought under democratic control of the people of SA.

It lists 15 areas of the economy which will be brought under state control the banks, mines and large corporations.

The ANC says that only by doing this will it be able to enforce the commitment in the Freedom Charter to provide all people will rights to education, employment and land.

In a document outlining its constitutional guidelines for a new SA published last year, the ANC said the state would have the right to determine the general context of economic life.

It added that, "The private sector of the economy shall be obliged to co-operate with the state in realising the objectives of the Freedom Charter in promoting social well-being."

Minister Durr Says Emphasis on Trade To Increase

*MB0611215189 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1754 GMT 6 Nov 89*

[Text] Johannesburg Nov 6 SAPA—The Department of Trade and Industry's involvement in foreign trade promotion is to be increased, the minister of trade and industry and of tourism, Mr Kent Durr, announced on Monday [6 November] night.

Addressing the AGM [Annual General Meeting] of the South African Foreign Trade Organization (SAFTO) in Sandton, he said the entire function of foreign trade within the department was being restructured. "We regard it as essential that the department's involvement in foreign trade be elevated to a higher level of departmental responsibility and that it should be seen as an activity of prime importance."

Mr Durr said all the department's foreign trade activities would be modernised to ensure more efficiency and professionalism at all its offices abroad. "An important advance will be the use of electronic data between all our offices and head office. Good communications are absolutely essential."

An intensive screening and retraining of personnel had begun, to improve the cost-effectiveness of the 34 overseas offices in 28 countries. These offices would operate on a management by objective basis in future.

In the department's new export development scheme the emphasis was now not only on quantity, "but for the first time the scheme will encourage higher levels of beneficiation." The scheme had been thoughtfully developed in co-operation with the private sector and was "simple, flexible, performance-based, provides protection against exchange and inflation rate movements and requires minimal administration."

Mr Durr said he had never been more optimistic that South Africa may "return to our normal and rightful place in the world." He added: "I am convinced that we are finally coming to terms with each other and with Africa and the world. We are building a new South Africa and as we do so, perceptions of our country are bound to improve."

4 Nov Press Review on Current Problems, Issues
MB0411104389

[Editorial Report]

THE STAR

SWAPO To Benefit From 'Scare'—"The Namibian peace process is far too fragile to survive brinkmanship from any side without suffering damage. So there should be concern both over the notion of SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] troop movements just beyond (and even across) the Angolan border and with the South African decision to go on military alert over mysterious intercepted signals," observes the Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 3 November in a page 12 editorial. "Partisans in the power stakes will naturally be honing their tactics with the elections only days away, but only SWAPO stands to gain out of the latest scare relating to alleged military moves." "Why should SWAPO seek a military power grab that would earn international opprobrium when it is on the brink of taking control peacefully, and with world approval?" "If SWAPO was uncertain of a two-thirds majority, it can feel a little nearer to it as a result of Pretoria's gauche publicising of supposed UNTAG [UN Transition Assistance Group] signals, which UNTAG denies flatly ever having sent."

SATURDAY STAR

Columnist Views RSA Economy's Ideology—Joe Latakomo, in his 4 November "Write On" column in Johannesburg SATURDAY STAR in English on page 10, examines the political orientation of South Africa's economy. "Is our economy a free enterprise, capitalistic one, or are we socialist, mixed, or something else which has perhaps not yet been defined?" "For blacks capitalism has been associated with exploitation, while whites see socialism as akin to communism, which is a dirty word here, if ever there was one." "What we need in this country is not an indulgence in which 'ism' is best for us, but to decide whether we just want a cat that can catch mice."

CITIZEN

SWAPO Action 'Jeopardises' Namibian Election—Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 3 November in its page 6 commentary warns that "the massing of SWAPO forces near the Namibian border jeopardises the Namibian election." "The presence of thousands of SWAPO fighters, complete with tanks, near the border, will have an intimidatory effect on voters, particularly in the northern part of the country." "South Africa's position is a delicate one." "Judging by the size of the SWAPO force and its armaments, intervention by South Africa could result in a bloody conflict. On the other hand, can South Africa avoid its responsibility to the people of Namibia to ensure that the territory has free and fair elections and that SWAPO does not take over by

force? We hope our forces will not have to go back, but this can only be avoided if SWAPO sticks to the peace accords."

Pik Botha 'Should Be Taken to Task'—"Foreign Minister. Mr Pik Botha, should be taken to task for his handling of the UNTAG despatches affair," opines THE CITIZEN on 4 November in a page 6 commentary. "Military intelligence sources are fully aware of a build-up of SWAPO forces near the Namibian border." "For reasons best known to the government, it was decided not to disclose the intelligence reports on the SWAPO build-up. Instead, Mr Botha hastily called a media conference and dramatically announced the interception of a number of despatches between UNTAG military personnel indicating that large numbers of armed SWAPO fighters were preparing to cross, or had already crossed, the Angolan-Namibian border." But Botha did not discount the possibility that the messages were a hoax. "That's not good enough, Mr Botha. The authenticity of the messages should have been checked before any announcement was made. The Minister has egg on his face—and unfortunately so has South Africa—and nobody will now believe us when we next try to expose SWAPO's treachery."

BUSINESS DAY

SWAPO Concentrations 'Make No Sense'—"The situation in Namibia, clouded by conflicting claims and denials, has become very dangerous to the real interests of South Africa, and it will be necessary amid the commotion in coming days for South Africans to keep those interests firmly in mind. The facts are not easy to ascertain, in part because of the SADF's [South African Defense Force] record of dirty tricks undermines confidence in Pretoria's version of events, and in part because of the tragi-comical inadequacy of UNTAG," declares Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 3 November in a page 10 editorial. "While the facts are difficult to determine, the interpretation of those facts is more difficult." "Unless the forces allegedly concentrating in southern Angola "are SWAPO deserters or mutineers, or just bandits, the concentration of forces on the border makes no sense at all." South African policy "should aim at preserving the peace process, almost at any cost." "No action should be taken at all until the presence of SWAPO forces is verified beyond doubt, say by aerial photography. All diplomatic effort should focus on obtaining that verification."

SOWETAN

Pik Botha's Allegations 'Coldly Calculated Ploy'—"We are concerned at reports that a confrontation that could wreck the Namibian peace process at the 11th hour is building up between the Government and SWAPO," states Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 3 November in a page 6 editorial. "While we do not have reason to doubt Mr Botha's claims we wonder if the fact that SWAPO is well on the way to resounding victory in these elections is not the problem." "What increases our

suspicion is that SWAPO has nothing to gain by destabilising the elections and it is South Africa that has much to lose." "Until South Africa can substantiate her claims with solid facts, we believe Mr Botha's allegations are a coldly calculated ploy to stop SWAPO winning the elections by calling off the elections on the technicality that the organisation had contravened the provisions of Resolution 435."

NEW NATION

Government 'No Longer Knows How To Respond'—"It is becoming increasingly evident that the government no longer knows how to respond to political events in the country, and is daily sinking deeper into confusion and crisis," states Johannesburg NEW NATION in English for 3 November-9 November on a page 6 editorial. "It probably is true that the government is reviewing some of its old, failed strategies, and is desperately trying to come up with a sham reform program. The mass of the oppressed will not idly wait for that but will seize the movement and move forward. That much was evident" from the 29 October rally addressed by released security prisoners and "attended by over 80,000 people." "We believe that the rally marks a turning point in the prosecution of the struggle, and has taken us to a higher level of mass, disciplined, united action." "Our resolve must be strengthened that never before has the regime been at its weakest and the people at their strongest." "It is only with the destruction of apartheid that the people in the entire subcontinent will experience genuine liberation."

WEEKLY MAIL

Using Freedom 'Tough Task'—Steven Friedman, in his "Worm's Eye" column in Johannesburg WEEKLY MAIL in English for 3 November-9 November on page 12, says "Winning freedom is a tough task; using it may be even tougher." The 29 October ex-prisoners rally "may have begun a process in which the African National Congress [ANC] and its allies are winning the freedom to operate normally. Mass politics may have taken a massive step forward towards becoming normal politics." "The rally showed what many commentators knew already—that, despite its exclusion from legal politics for nearly 30 years (partly because of it?), the ANC can rely on a substantial support base, probably a bigger one than any other movement." "If the ANC and other outlawed movements are indeed winning the right to engage in relatively normal politics, they will increasingly be judged by new standards." "Now there is a real chance that they may have the opportunity to become politicians."

6 Nov Press Review

MB0611131089

[Editorial Report]

SUNDAY STAR

Botha's Unfounded Allegations Feed 'Psychosis'—A page 14 editorial in Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR in English on 5 November recounts RSA Foreign Minister Pik

Botha's unfounded allegations that South-West African People's Organization [SWAPO] troops amassed along the Angolan-Namibian border, saying "for one of the longest-serving Foreign Ministers in the world, Mr Botha demonstrated that, at best, he was perhaps an easy set-up for a crackpot radio hoaxer, if one believes UNTAG [UN Transition Assistance Group], Britain and the U.S. At worst, he and his advisers showed an ineptitude that would have had them fired in any vaguely democratic country with a competent government. His actions have ensured that South Africa gets to hang its head in embarrassment again, as the United Nations, UNTAG, Britain and the U.S. pile on the criticism." "But one of the most sobering thoughts of all on the unfortunate business is that, in the past, South African troops may well have been deployed on the basis of just such questionable information feeding a 'psychosis'—with dire consequences for neighbouring states, not to mention South Africa itself."

THE STAR

Namibia Deserves Good Wishes—"It has been a long and painful road to independence for Namibia and it will be a cruel tragedy if the election that begins tomorrow does not herald the final stretch," states the Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 6 November in a page 12 editorial. South Africa's administration of the territory "will be recorded principally as the cause of a 40-year struggle, subsequently, to throw off Pretoria's control." "Even in the final days their hopes have been shaken by dubious South African allegations of imminent hostilities caused by SWAPO and threats of SADF [South African Defense Force] intervention." "The good wishes of the world will go with the Namibians as they go to the polls. And so should the best wishes of all South Africans. It is very much in this country's interests that Namibia should reach the end of the road to independence and get a constitution and government that will ensure a stable future. The Namibians surely deserve it. Theirs has been a long fight."

Apartheid, Sanctions Must Go—"No one can deny that sanctions are biting. What is surprising—and alarming—is the size of the wound," notes THE STAR in another editorial on the same page. "Sanctions have left South Africans 100 billion rands poorer, hobbled economic growth and prevented the creation of half a million jobs. The outlook is bleaker still." "The sanctions lobby must be deriving great satisfaction from this evidence of damage inflicted to the economy," despite the fact that "sanctions have increased the chances of political confrontation at the expense of reconciliation." "Of course apartheid must go—the Nats have finally acknowledged that. It would be tragic if their professed sincerity was not tested. Sanctions are a major obstacle in this context. Commonsense and humanity demand their withdrawal."

SUNDAY TIMES

'Heads Must Roll' on SWAPO Disinformation—"Fortunately the fiasco over the phoney UNTAG signals

has not done any serious damage to the Namibian independence process—it has merely left the countenance of our Foreign Minister covered with a large splotch of unwelcome egg," depicts a page 22 editorial in Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English on 5 November. "Mr Pik Botha can be excused for being hopping mad because so far only one thing has emerged clearly from this whole murky business: Someone, somewhere, took him and a number of senior officials for a ride. As Mr Botha gamely brushes the egg from his person, there are disquieting suggestions that rogue elements within the security forces could have rigged the whole thing, either by trespassing on UNTAG radio frequencies or by the much simpler expedient of actually fabricating the controversial messages." "Generally the SADF is a well-trained, well-officered force with an enviable reputation for maintaining discipline." However, past experience has shown that "it is not without its dangerously maverick elements." The responsible parties' "heads must roll." "If there are people bent on scuppering the process at the 11th hour they must receive no mercy. When next the Foreign Minister cries 'Wolf!' South Africans—and governments abroad—must be sure they can believe him."

Government's Legal Policy Proves Dilemma—A second SUNDAY TIMES editorial on page 22 reads: "The welcome-home rally last weekend, at which Mr Walter Sisulu and other released prisoners stood under the banned ANC [African National Congress] and Communist Party flags, has brought into sharper focus the growing debate on our law. Quite simply, the State finds itself on the horns of its own dilemma. It wants to foster a climate of reconciliation, but it does not want, or is unable at this stage, to repeal restrictive laws which, if enforced, would stifle rather than stimulate communication of ideas. In these sensitive days of transition politics, effectively relaxing restrictions by refusing to apply the letter of the law is not in itself a bad thing. Look at the events of the last month. It is a ploy that also works for the ANC which, for political reasons of its own, is unable to renounce violence, but has in effect stopped practising it. While it is true that daily contraventions tend to make a mockery of the law, the Government should not be unduly pressured to deviate from its present policy of letting things happen. But President de Klerk must also realise that it will eventually become impossible to evade the inevitable—and scrap or amend whatever laws impede political progress."

THE CITIZEN

Messages Hoax 'Worst Diplomatic Setback'—"We are pleased that South Africa has withdrawn all its allegations concerning the messages supposedly exchanged by UNTAG forces concerning a SWAPO build-up of forces on the Angolan-Namibian border, and that the Namibian election, starting tomorrow, can now go ahead without any extraneous fears," asserts the Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 6 November in a page 6 editorial. "Unfortunately, South Africa's credibility remains tarnished." "It was the worst diplomatic setback South Africa

has had in years. The question now being asked is who was responsible." "To our mind, it would be far-fetched to suggest that some officers dreamed up such an elaborate hoax which could be so easily exposed." "In the aftermath of the controversy, South Africa cannot repeat its concerns about SWAPO's intentions, for fear of causing another major international upset."

BUSINESS DAY

President Needs Loyal, Competent Aides—"President de Klerk is surely as appalled, and as deeply alarmed, as most intelligent South Africans by last week's debacle over the mythical SWAPO invasion of Namibia," asserts the Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 6 November in a page 8 editorial. "At best, it implies staggering incompetence." "At worst, it suggests a crude but deliberate attempt to revive the Namibian war and to wreck the hard-won process that has brought the territory to the verge of independence. To say that the Foreign Minister has once again been guilty of one of his periodic lapses of good judgment hardly conveys the gravity of the matter." This issue "raises questions of emotional stability, and perhaps casts light on the Foreign Minister's inability, in his various leadership contests, to win the confidence of those who know him best." As for the SADF, "This is not the first time the SADF has gone out of control." "That should not be permitted to happen again." President de Klerk "will need to know that he can rely on the SADF to be loyal and competent in carrying out any task and that he can depend on his Foreign Minister not to lose his head. The State President owes it to himself to surround himself with men who meet these criteria."

SOWETAN

Government Wrong To Warn NEW NATION—"The Government's decision to issue a veiled threat to close NEW NATION for allegedly contravening emergency regulations could not have come at the worst moment. Whether rightly or wrongly, the Government has taken a lot of credit even from its most vociferous opponents, for closing its eyes to some of the things that have happened in the past few weeks," observes the Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 6 November in a page 6 editorial. Protest marches "have become a way of life," and the government allowed the ANC rally to take place. "The significance of all these activities was that they demonstrated what seemed to be the Government's realisation of the importance of freedom of expression as a forerunner to a peaceful settlement of the country's problems. But the letter delivered by a home affairs official at the offices of NEW NATION last week tell a different story. It tells us that we were wrong to have seen a ray of hope in what the Government did. The message that seems to be coming out clearly to all of us is that the nation should be called to rally around NEW NATION to prevent it being closed."

7 Nov Press Review

MB0711113789

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

SWAPO Two-Thirds Majority Win Unlikely— Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 7 November in its page 6 editorial remarks that "SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] will win the election" but "whether it will be able to obtain a two-thirds majority to enable it to write the constitution on its own is doubtful. Whether it will accept an electoral result that does not promise it sole power is equally doubtful." South Africa will watch the developments in Namibia "with great interest" because "it has poured billions of rands into the territory over the years, creating an infrastructure that outshines anything that any colonial power left its former subjects." THE CITIZEN also hopes that if SWAPO does come to power "it will be on friendly terms with South Africa. It will be in the interests of Namibia to live in peace and to trade with the Republic even though the umbilical cord that attached it to South Africa will be finally cut."

THE STAR

Media 'Blatantly Savaged'—"In only two months in office, President de Klerk has dramatically changed the style of government and moved to a position where those in power are seen to be reaching out tentatively to talk to those deprived of it," observes Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 7 November in a page 18 editorial. Yet "the very media which have enabled him to convey his message are now being blatantly savaged by his government." "All the media still operate under a blanket of censorship. The new element is that authoritarian behaviour increases at the same time as the State President calls for communication and understanding. The press is being pushed into limbo. But the Government seems to be there already—and its credibility is in danger of being finally destroyed by its own officials."

Military Service Reduction Welcomed—A second editorial on the same page says there is "much to gain" from reducing military service, "as might happen next year following Cabinet discussions on cutting the costs of government. But this cannot take place without substantial political change and a concerted effort to create more jobs." A "political change of emphasis that would justify the removal of troops from the townships and warrant a smaller army" is needed.

BUSINESS DAY

Criticism of Army Intervention in Politics— Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 7 November in a page 16 editorial refers to Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha's disclosure of intercepted messages that seemed to indicate SWAPO forces were infiltrating Namibia, saying "the great Namibian emergency appears to have evaporated, leaving behind nothing but

bruised egos, tarnished reputations, and a serious question mark over the handling of foreign policy, especially when the armed forces get involved." "The armed forces have, by their constant intervention in local and international politics, sacrificed credibility and trust." "As it is South Africa has sacrificed the international credibility it will need when, almost certainly, SWAPO's forces do enter the territory after the election. All of this points to an urgent need to overhaul the standard procedures for handling foreign policy crisis, and in particular for the independent, cool, and professional evaluation of intelligence information."

Namibians 'Inadequately' Equipped for Independence— "South African administration has left behind good roads, and good physical infrastructure, but poorly developed human resources" in Namibia notes a second editorial on the same page. "The population remains not only poor, but illiterate and untrained, and inadequately equipped for independence. The best that can be said of the territory's future is that it cannot be worse than the South African-administered past. At least Namibians will be free to come to terms with each other as best they can, without the blind and brutal intervention of another power."

SOWETAN

Namibian Events Example for RSA—"The events in Namibia will be of particular interest to South Africans, not only because this country ruled over Namibia for decades against the wishes of Namibians and in defiance of the international community, but also because Namibia might be setting an example for us," points out the page 6 editorial in Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 7 November. "We too have had our long, costly, but unacknowledged war. We too are confronted with the task of drawing up a new constitution for our country. But alas, our 'war' is not about to end simply because some people refuse to start on a clean slate and refuse to ignore skin colour in the final arrangements. South Africans have so much to learn from a process that they, ironically, helped start."

CAPE TIMES

Strikers' Violence 'Anti-Democratic'—"Very disturbing trends are emerging in some of the groupings fighting apartheid and they raise serious doubts about whether these people really want a truly democratic South Africa or whether their stated goal of a non-racial democracy is merely a disguise for the goal of winning power," remarks Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English on 2 November in a page 6 editorial. Referring to the use of violence by strikers at South African Breweries CAPE TIMES says it is "a thoroughly anti-democratic, indeed fascist, way of operating. If the striking workers or their supporters can only advance their cause by resorting to these methods, they don't deserve sympathy." "The struggle for a new South Africa is not simply to destroy apartheid. It is also a struggle for true democracy, including a free press."

RAPPORT

Black Rally Leaves 'Impression' on White Feelings—Referring to the rally held in Soweto to welcome the seven ANC leaders released from prison Johannesburg RAPPORT in Afrikaans on 5 November says "the huge display of black power at Soccer City this past Sunday made an indelible impression on white feelings." The "danger exists that a 'judgment day scenario' can take hold easily in the white political consciousness, and that people will start thinking in terms of: Is this the beginning of the end? Clearly more is expected from the white political will: to rather establish a constructive 'future scenario', and then with full realization of the consequences of the government's present approach, and with realization of the consequences if the government turns to tough action." It should only be a "last, hopeless alternative" to view the "fast changing political scene as the beginning of the end."

TRANSVALER

Detainees Expose SWAPO's 'True Colors'—"A sort of bonus of the election in South-West Africa is that at least SWAPO's true colors were exposed," affirms a page 8 editorial in Johannesburg TRANSVALER in Afrikaans on 2 November. "This was not done by the whites but by Sam Nujoma's own people who survived the detention camps in Angola and now can tell what repugnant deeds are committed there." "At least the world now can see a true picture of the people who promise to rule an independent South-West Africa 'fairly'."

SWAPO Seeks To 'Manipulate' Independence—"There is apparently no end to SWAPO's attempts to manipulate the independence process in South-West to its advantage," affirms Johannesburg TRANSVALER in Afrikaans on 3 November in a page 6 editorial. "Minister Pik Botha's disclosure this week of SWAPO's military activities on South-West Africa's northern border make the UN's assurances that the organization should not be south of the sixteenth parallel totally ridiculous." "For the sake of those South Africans who are constantly complaining the government is committing treason in South-West Africa: this week's incidents proved just the opposite."

DIE BURGER

Better Living Conditions Priority for Blacks—"Local and foreign supporters of economic sanctions against South Africa are only too keen to dispute that so-called punitive measures affect the black population in particular the most," observes Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans on 2 November in a page 20 editorial. "In instances where they do acknowledge it, they reason that the black people are willing to endure the hardship if it means they can ultimately achieve full political freedom. But the sanctioneers close their eyes to the manifestation that in virtually all opinion polls most blacks drop their support for sanctions if it means their work and welfare is at risk. This underscores a truth that too many people are inclined to ignore, which is that for probably the majority of blacks it

is not only about achieving political freedom. In the first instance they seek better and more decent living conditions for themselves and their children."

BEELD

Call for Government Reform Support—Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans on 3 November in a page 8 editorial says: "Political reform was never easy. Uncertainty and obscurity exists, and pragmatic approaches are demanded for which there are no clear guidelines. It is against this background that the uncertainty about the ANC's [African National Congress] legal position, the permission of its activities, and the behavior of its released leaders must be judged." BEELD believes that most importantly "the path taken by the government, is the right one in its search for political solutions and peace. There are risks, but the government is apparently fully in control of what happens. Support and not undermining is needed."

VRYE WEEKBLAD

ANC Rally Cause for Optimism—"Sunday's ANC rally heralded a new era in our politics that should make any South African optimistic about the future," remarks a page 20 editorial in Johannesburg VRYE WEEKBLAD in Afrikaans on 3 November. "The three words most used during the rally were 'discipline,' 'reconciliation,' and 'peace'." It is possible that historians will "refer to the present cadre of ANC leaders and the mass democratic movement as the moderates of this period. What can be more moderate than to advocate a nonracial multi-party democracy with a bill of human rights, and a mixed economy? But one swallow does not make a summer. One can only hope and pray that the F.W. de Klerk government will remain on its present course of pragmatism so that the new politics of negotiation and reconciliation can take root properly and can result in true negotiation."

THE NAMIBIAN

Pik Botha's SWAPO Infiltration Claims 'Intimidation'—"If ever there was an act of intimidation it was SA Foreign Minister, Pik Botha's, wild and unsubstantiated claim about an imminent PLAN [People's Liberation Army of Namibia] invasion which shook the world on Wednesday night," writes Gwen Lister in her "Political Perspective" column on page 6 of Windhoek THE NAMIBIAN in English on 3 November. Pik Botha's claim "could succeed in doing a number of things: consolidating the anti-SWAPO front; drawing the attention from internal problems in South Africa; igniting the spark of white fears, already fuelled by scare tactics; and a number of others. Mr Botha's Government has, on a number of occasions, professed its good intentions towards the Namibia peace plan, but claims like Mr Botha's make their promises difficult to believe."

Pik Botha 'Invasion' Claims Threaten Elections—The page 7 editorial says Pik Botha's "startling claim of an imminent PLAN invasion, reminiscent of the April 1 infiltration, did not only send the expected shock waves through the white community, but it also threatened the continued implementation of the peace plan with elections only four days away." "One of the greatest fears on the part of most residents of this country is that the South Africans have a 'hidden agenda' and dirty-tricks' campaign to derail the process, in order to prevent election of a government not of their choice. Mr Botha's unfounded allegation would seem to lend substance to these suspicions, unless he and his Government come up with a very good excuse indeed, once the 'communiques' are publicly labelled as forgeries as we expect they will be."

8 Nov Press Review

MB0811103089

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

Call for Lifting of Press Restrictions—The page 6 editorial in Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 8 November says "editors have to walk a minefield of statutory laws that could land them in court if they do not take extreme care." Nevertheless "newspapers have always been able to give their readers a fair idea of what is happening, and we have never accepted the charges that newspapers here are censored (which they aren't), or so restricted that they must carry front-page notices warning people that they are." But ultimately "it would be a good idea if the emergency Press restrictions were lifted entirely and the editors were left to walk through the minefield of statutory laws once more. At least they will then know why they get themselves blown up if they tread where they shouldn't."

THE STAR

Criticism of Cabinet Reaction to SWAPO Infiltration Alert—"By means of retraction and public humiliation, South Africa seems to have extricated itself from the worst consequences of its impetuous decision last week to place the army on full alert against SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization]," remarks a page 18 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 8 November. "Some of the damage cannot be easily undone. At one blow South Africa put at risk a reputation for honest intention over Namibia that it had been painstakingly trying to build for months and years." Also "the revelation that the Cabinet itself took the decision to create a highly visible international incident provides no comfort." "It is hard to accept, without much more convincing, that there was a five-star emergency that demanded instant action; that there was no choice but to announce an immediate 'red alert'; and that there wasn't the time to seek UNTAG [UN Transition Assistance Group] reaction or test the messages in some other way.

Without explanations, those factors add up to an indictment of Cabinet decision-making on a potentially explosive issue."

Beach Apartheid Invites 'Ridicule'—A second editorial on the same page says that for the Durban Nationalist councillors to "pull down the apartheid signs while proclaiming that apartheid remains is to invite ridicule." "An NP [National Party] government has accepted that beach apartheid must go. It is time Durban's councillors let the tide of public opinion wash apartheid away."

BUSINESS DAY

ANC Economic Proposals Not Founded in 'Morality'—

The ANC remains wedded to "the idea that a post-apartheid government must seize control of the mines, the banks and the majority corporations," notes a page 10 editorial in Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 8 November. "It proposes also to redistribute the land in ways which have not been specified." "That apartheid created unacceptable disparities of wealth, and that the imbalance needs to be addressed, is indisputable, but to assign responsibility is no simple matter, and to talk of redistribution in terms of justice is clearly nonsense." The "'exploited' workers (we use the left-wing jargon with deliberate irony) included immigrant whites, poor Afrikaners, many Malawians, and half the able-bodied men of Lesotho. To unscramble all these historical injustices, except on the racist grounds that wealth must be taken indiscriminately from whites and given to blacks, or on the socialist premise that the means of production must be seized by the state, is not a proposal founded in morality, whatever its political motivations might be."

Press Restrictions 'Counter-Productive'—"The National Party has been trying for nearly 40 years to impose thought control on the country by bullying and restricting newspapers," affirms a second editorial on the same page. "The effort has so far been spectacularly counter-productive, and has contributed greatly to the international image of the country as the polecat of the world. There is no point in appealing to the police of the government to abandon their futile bullying—both lack the sophisticated learning which is required to understand the ebb and flow of information, good and bad, through the society, and both are too obdurate to learn from others' experience. Time will teach them that their newspaper policy is no wiser nor more effective than their social policy, their monetary policy, their transport policy, or any other aspect of their generation of misgovernment."

SOWETAN

NP Must Change Laws To Suit Policy Changes—"The circus in the chambers of the Durban City Council continues, this time with the council agreeing to remove 'whites only' signs," remarks the page 6 editorial in Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 8 November. "This means that some of the city's beaches will continue to be the exclusive domain of white South Africans, but

the embarrassing signs that spell this out will be gone." "In the end, however, the National Party Government must take full responsibility for what is happening in cities like Durban, Boksburg and Careltonville. The people in those towns are still sticking to traditional NP policies. As the party shifted slightly to the left, it forgot to change the laws to suit the new posture."

CAPE TIMES

Foreign Minister Anticipates SWAPO 'Dirty Tricks'—Referring to Foreign Minister Pik Botha's claims that SWAPO forces are massing near the Namibian border in southern Angola Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English on 3 November says in a page 6 editorial: "It may be that Mr Botha is anticipating SWAPO dirty tricks in or soon after the week of polling and is determined that the blame should fall where it belongs if the whole plan goes off the rails. And so he pre-empted the SWAPO propaganda machine, getting his blow in advance. Whatever the propaganda games in play, however, Pretoria's objective remains disengagement from Namibia with honour as quickly and as cleanly as possible. It is not only a matter of protecting Pretoria's newly-established credibility in the international arena. President F.W. de Klerk's domestic standing and his drive for a new South Africa will likewise suffer if things go wrong in Namibia."

Editorial Questions Value of RSA Destabilization—"Whether the policy of regional destabilisation, as attempts to counter the ANC and SWAPO by secretly entering the Angolan civil war was called, was ultimately worth it is questionable," remarks Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English on 6 November in a page 8 editorial. "There were some gains for Namibia in delaying its independence until socialist policies had become widely discredited in Africa as elsewhere. But a regional settlement could also have been achieved by imaginative diplomacy, with the military arm mostly held in reserve. South Africa's interests are best served now by scrupulous compliance with the terms of the peace agreement and withdrawal from Namibia."

Plan To Cut State Spending Welcome—The "apparent resolve of President F.W. de Klerk to cut state spending drastically" comes "none too soon," observes a second editorial on the same page. "As with the rest of the new road government has apparently embarked upon, progress will have to be impressive for the scepticism and distrust induced by years of false promises to be undone. The deepening downturn in the business cycle must inevitably exacerbate our economic problems, which traditionally tend to further polarise the populace. Yet the downside can be minimised this time if Mr De Klerk achieves significant reductions in the State's share of the economy."

TRANSVALER

Pik Botha Claims Damage RSA Credibility—Johannesburg TRANSVALER in Afrikaans on 6 November in a page 6 editorial asks: "Who is responsible

for the seriously embarrassing position in which Pik Botha finds himself? Who planted the falsified radio messages, apparently from UN Transition Assistance Group origin?" TRANSVALER believes that Pik Botha's embarrassment "is also South Africa's." "Could there be no better control beforehand of the veracity of the claims? If it was so easy to establish after the fact that it was a piece of disinformation, why was there not greater effort to verify this before the incident? This arouses the uncomfortable suspicion that people in important positions misbehaved. They must, without exception, be sought out and punished." South Africa was "hurt" by this incident. "The country's credibility and integrity were dealt a hard blow—and then after so much trouble and risk to build it up. When will we stop shooting ourselves in the foot?"

DIE BURGER

NP 'Courage' To Take Risks for RSA Solutions—"In view of the complex ethnic, cultural, and social set-up in South Africa there is no political course that does not have accompanying risks," warns Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans on 3 November in a page 16 editorial. DIE BURGER compares the "old dispensation" to a "steam kettle where the pressure built up dangerously because all the security valves were closed. This situation could not be allowed to continue indefinitely. The new dispensation embarked on by President de Klerk and his government has opened some of those security valves and everything indicates that an explosion was averted and the situation in the country is more relaxed. But the risks have not disappeared. The opening of the remaining valves will be dangerous, but whoever is not prepared to take these risks also has no hope of finding solutions for South Africa. The Nationalist government has proven it has the necessary courage to do this."

Call for RSA Votes in Namibia—The election in Namibia will "indicate whether any of the parties is in a position to determine the future constitution," says a page 8 editorial in Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans on 6 November. "A two-thirds majority is needed for that. Support for the democratic parties is imperative to prevent SWAPO, the party with a reputation for torture and which also proposes a crude socialist policy, from attaining a majority which will effectively give it the power to rule alone. Therefore, every vote from South Africa that is legal there is vital to ensure a better future for South-West Africa."

BEELD

Call for Sisulu To Renounce Violence—The government is no longer demanding that the ANC renounce violence but only that "it should seek peaceful solutions for South Africa's problems," Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans on 7 November in a page 8 editorial points out. "Such a search to resolve problems without using violence is something completely different from the intention to do so violently—such as is the ANC's aim until now. It

appears ANC veteran Walter Sisulu cannot, or does not want to, understand this difference. He wants to know from President F.W. de Klerk what further proof he needs that the ANC favors peace when ANC rallies proceed peacefully. The political stalemate in South Africa revolves around more than just peaceful rallies. If Mr Sisulu truly wants a peaceful solution for the country why is it so difficult for him to say so? His own leader, Mr Nelson Mandela, has already spoken in favor of this. Until Mr Sisulu does likewise, his actions will be seen as condoning the ANC violence policy and will delay the already delayed negotiation process."

9 Nov Press Review

MB0911115789

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

Standard of Living Falling—The Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 9 November in a page 6 editorial, states: "The government should be under no misapprehension about the effect on ordinary folk of the burdens that they are having to face. The standard of living of most people is falling, and many are finding it hard to live a decent life." "The government is trying hard now to straighten out the economy, but in doing so it is tightening up on the money supply, putting interest rates up, and curtailing consumer spending. We have been warned that tough times are ahead—and things will get worse before they get better. But for heaven's sake, the government cannot be indifferent to the plight of the ordinary man." We are not suggesting price controls, but "a body of representative of government, industry, commerce and consumers to monitor prices and to advise it on steps it may be able to take to keep prices down." "The government must show that it cares."

THE STAR

Soweto 'Difficult But Not Hopeless'—"Soweto, southern Africa's largest city, has been a chronic disaster area for so long that people tend to shrug off its problems as insoluble. Yet they must be tackled, if only to avert further decline, and it is encouraging to see the authorities at least making a start," declares the Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 9 November in a page 18 editorial. A report by developmental economist Dr Simon Brand "found the situation 'difficult but not hopeless'." "The Brand report identifies the problems and the lines of some solutions, but successful implementation depends very much on consultation with 'authentic' leaders—and even more so, on progress in the broader constitutional field."

Gold Not Panacea for Economy—"Gold's strong showing over the past few weeks reawakens visions of a return to South Africa's better days," notes THE STAR in another editorial on the same page. "This halcyon prospect, however, should be heavily tempered by an awareness that the gold price has always behaved in a highly

volatile fashion. It could fall as quickly as it rose." "In the past, policymakers have erred by relying on gold as a panacea for most economic ills. Hopefully, the lesson has since been learnt." "Economic strategies must be based on conservative assumptions that exclude gold at a still higher price—or even its current level."

BUSINESS DAY

Stals Shows New Style, Policy—"More than style changed when Chris Stals took over as Reserve Bank Governor. The very definition of 'restrictive monetary policy' was overhauled—a fact the financial markets learned the hard way," observes Greta Steyn in a page 8 article of the Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 9 November. Stals "compelled participants in the markets to make fundamental adjustments to what they are beginning to see as a whole new set of rules." "The only radical action that can be attributed to him is that he has apparently started to implement oft-stated policies." "He appears to be the first central banker with the courage, and the political backing, to show any sign of actually doing something about the problem. He has convinced the markets his talk is not cheap." Stals, like Alan Greenspan, "has had to prove his anti-inflation mettle by taking some pretty bold steps. Now that Stals has made his point, the question is whether he will remain consistent. If Stals sticks to his guns as Greenspan did, he will achieve a slowdown in money supply growth, and tame demand-pull inflation."

SOWETAN

Golden Opportunity in Soweto—"The Government has a golden opportunity to transform the black townships that are islands of poverty into vibrant communities bustling with life and opportunity," asserts the Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 9 November in a page 6 editorial. In order to turn Soweto's budget deficit into a surplus, Dr Simon Brand recommends developing industries in the townships. "The Government should grab at this opportunity. It did not hesitate to pump money into the border industries in pursuance of its unworkable apartheid delusions. We therefore do not expect it to waver now when the development of industries in the townships is possible." "It is also very necessary that black entrepreneurs be fully involved. Black traders associations must be part of the planning."

TRANSVALER

Is Afrikaner Mature Enough—Johannesburg TRANSVALER in Afrikaans on 7 November notes in a page 8 editorial: "Has the Afrikaner grown up? Are we ready to free ourselves of the fear of having our culture swamped—and to reach out to others? Do we have enough faith in the strength of our own and in what we have to offer to take the chance with them? This is the challenge of the new South Africa to the Afrikaner."

Homelands Not Independent—In a second editorial on the same page, TRANSVALER says: "South Africa last year spent close to 3 billion rand in aid and special

projects to the four independent states. This fact shows more than anything else that the TBVC [Transkei, Ciskei, Venda and Bophuthatswana—FBIS] are independent in theory only. The reality is that the Transkei, Venda, Bophuthatswana and Ciskei are totally dependent on South Africa, and will remain so forever."

BEELD

Apartheid Absurdity in Durban—"Apartheid has produced many absurdities in South Africa, the latest being the decision by the Durban City Council to remove all apartheid signs from the remaining white beaches, but people of other racial groups may not swim there," observes the Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans on 8 November in a page 14 editorial. "This is to try to convince oneself and the outside world that apartheid does not exist any more, (nothing for the television cameras to photograph) but the shadow of unseen regulations still hangs heavily over everything." "This is why we suspect that a last opening wave will wash over the Durban question very soon—a wave created by absurdity on the one hand and healthy direction and pressure on the other hand."

Namibian Elections 'Promising'—A second editorial on the same page says: "Voters forming long lines at polling stations in Namibia is a promising sign. It shows that the elections have been accepted as the real thing." "But there is still a great deal of tension in the territory; shots fired at a DTA [Democratic Turnhalle Alliance] airplane while broadcasting election messages, and a SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] bus set on fire. There are bottlenecks which must be removed before Namibia can be certain of a peaceful future. Even now, after the axe is supposed to be buried, various groups still have deep suspicions about each other." "Ultimately the test will be to see if the people of Namibia are able to bring about a dispensation which will enjoy the support of all its people, the losers in the elections, the West and its most important immediate neighbor."

DIE REPUBLIKEIN

DTA Welcomes Former SWAPO Fighters—"The PLAN [People's Liberation Army of Namibia] fighters who have walked over to the DTA have probably not regretted their decision to ally themselves with the true national liberation movement of Namibia, the DTA," remarks Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans on 1 November in a page 4 editorial. "In the DTA, a soldier is treated like a soldier: he receives compensation as a citizen of the state for the services he renders to the state. He is not treated like a slave. In addition he is allowed the freedom to change careers if he so wishes—he is not shoved into a hole."

SWAPO Tolerates No Criticism—"SWAPO members' story that all who criticize SWAPO will be punished after the election, if SWAPO wins the election, shows precisely the mentality in certain circles in this organization," states a page 8 editorial in Windhoek DIE

REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans on 2 November. "Criticism is the life blood of any democracy. But the dictators obviously do not realize this."

DIE SUIDWESTER

Free, Fair Election 'Impossible'—"No one knows precisely what the security situation is on the northern border of South-West Africa," claims Windhoek DIE SUIDWESTER in Afrikaans on 3 November in a page 6 editorial. "This applies also to many other aspects of the so-called peace process presently in operation. One of the unpleasant results of the process is that everything and everyone involved in it has become so entangled in a web of lies that it has become totally impossible to determine actual truths. One thing is certain: The security situation is alarming, and this is because precise adherence to the conditions of the settlement plan has been neglected. We are convinced that a free and fair election in the true sense of the word is impossible under these conditions."

RSA TV Assesses Namibian Media

MB0511201189 Johannesburg Television Service
in English 1840 GMT 5 Nov 89

[Report by Colleen Hendriks from the "Network" program—recorded]

[Text] [Hendriks] Since the SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] incursion on 1 April, the day the United Nations settlement plan was implemented, Windhoek's printing presses have never been silent.

The territory's five daily newspapers and seven others are rarely at a loss for words as they report and interpret the independence process, be it the repatriation of 40,000 refugees, the return of the SWAPO leadership from exile, the detention and torture of SWAPO dissidents, or visits by world leaders. However, the facts are seldom allowed to stand in the way of a good story.

[UN spokesman Cedric Thornberry] This is a country in which rumor abounds. Someone said that, after independence, Windhoek was going to be renamed Rumor-hoek, instead of Windhoek, and Ahtisaari has said that he thinks the only place in which there is more rumor than in Namibia is, possibly, in the UN Secretariat.

It has a power and a force of its own, and it seems to me, and maybe this is hopelessly old fashioned, but it seems to me that the role of the newspaper should be not to perpetuate and exacerbate that problem of rumor but, rather, to provide a contrast to rumor, to provide hard fact, to provide hard information, rather than perpetuating what are, sometimes, absolutely crazy rumors.

This, I think, is a very dangerous situation because it leads to a volatile, at times a volatile, political situation that can have disastrous consequences, in terms of law and order.

[Hendriks] More recently, intimidation has been making the headlines. The DTA [Democratic Turnhalle Alliance] mouthpiece, DIE REPUBLIKEIN, claims that SWAPO's up to its old tricks, perfected during the drawn-out bush war.

Yet, THE NAMIBIAN, which has a pro-SWAPO bias, regularly carries front-page reports of SWAPO supporters manhunted by political opponents in the DTA.

Political coverage is conducted much along the same lines. The deliberate miscalculation of attendances at political rallies has been a trademark of the political scene in Namibia since the days of Nat-SAP [National Party-South African Party] politics.

DIE REPUBLIKEIN often appears to downplay attendances at SWAPO rallies, while it is not uncommon for THE NAMIBIAN to tilt the scale in SWAPO's favor.

Hardly any of the newspapers in the territory are self-sufficient, and their partisan reportage is usually a reflection of the political views held by their respective benefactors.

[DIE REPUBLIKEIN Policy Director Jan Spies in Afrikaans fading into English translation] One would expect that with 12 newspapers in a country with such a small population, as that in South-West Africa, the public ought to be well informed. Unfortunately, it is also true that they have a very small circulation, and each newspaper carries, more or less, its own version of events. So, if a person wants to understand the entire political spectrum, he must read all 12 newspapers.

[Hendriks] South-West Africa/Namibia has always had more newspapers than any other country with such a small population, and the number is actually increased since the countdown to independence began.

Three of the parties and fronts participating in the election—SWAPO, the National Patriotic Front, and Action Christian National—now have their own newspapers, some of which are expected to close down after the election.

[WINDHOEK OBSERVER Editor Hannes Smith] There won't be many newspaper left; I will know whether there will be three left in a year from now. That is definite. Those remaining will have an extremely difficult task. It will not be an easy one. For them, there will be the task of being inflexible in defending certain principles in standing unwaveringly with certain tenets because that is the only way that we can build a solid state, built on justice, the rule of the law, that must be defended at all costs, and building a decent society, trying to protect our environment, trying to do something for our country, and, above all, to imbue other people. They cannot live from slogans that they must work, that they must be productive.

[Hendriks] The WINDHOEK OBSERVER is the only profitable and truly independent newspaper in the territory. Unlike most of the other papers, the OBSERVER

believes there is more to life than politics. Its maverick editor Hannes Smith, a descendent of one of the Dorsland [Thirstland] trekkers, has made full use of the new press freedom to discard the nipple caps from the paper's back page girl, a regular feature of the OBSERVER since its inception.

The only other paper which has aspired to an impartial nonpartisan status is the TIMES OF NAMIBIA. Although the paper's DTA connection was an open secret, the editor, Jean Sutherland, had a free hand editorially until the paper was taken over by REPUBLICAN PRESS, officially placing it in the DTA stable. The entire editorial staff walked out shortly after the take over, because the placement of an advertisement comparing the militia in SWAPO's detention camps to hapless gestapo.

[Sutherland] I want to make it quite clear that we did not actually resign over the detainees issue. The advertisement certainly sparked the whole chain of incidents which led to up to our resignation, but was not the advertisement in itself. What we objected to in the advert was the fact that it called for retribution at a time when Namibia was entering a new phase, when the emphasis should be on reconciliation, and on nation building.

[Hendriks] Despite a clear shift in editorial policy, the TIMES is still regarded as one of the better newspapers in the country, attempting at least to accommodate opposing political views. Conversely, THE NAMIBIAN gives as much coverage to SWAPO as the organization's own newspaper, NAMIBIA TODAY. Edited by Gwen Lister, THE NAMIBIAN's forte has always been to expose what it perceived to be the abuse of military and political power. The paper was founded in 1985, long before SWAPO's own newspaper.

[Lister] We felt that it was very important that one newspaper at least would reflect what I felt at the time was the aspiration of the majority of the people of Namibia, mainly for the implementation of Resolution 435. So, from the start, THE NAMIBIAN, let's say by virtue of circumstance and the political climate in which we started the newspaper, was seen as an activist newspaper, was in fact openly called a pro-SWAPO, and even a SWAPO mouthpiece in many instances. And I think a lot of this had to do with the fact that THE NAMIBIAN was covering politics, was covering groups such as SWAPO and other leftwing political parties which were not usually covered in the media here in this country. So it happened that a newspaper which was actually independent editorially developed, let's say, a bias towards the parties on the leftwing.

[Hendriks] THE NAMIBIAN survived an arson attack last year by a group calling themselves the Wit Wolwe [White Wolves]. The editor, who is the recipient of an international award for journalistic excellence in the Third World, is often depicted by DIE REPUBLIKEIN's

cartoonist as the nastiest of nasties. Indeed, the territory's cartoonists have been having a field day denigrating political opponents since the start of the independence process. The press, though freer than before the implementation of the international settlement plan, is coming under increasing scrutiny. Several reporters have already appeared before the commission into election malpractices and intimidation chaired by acting judge Brian O' Linn. The judge himself recently pressed charges of contempt and criminal libel against two local editors and their proprietor.

[O'Linn] We have got, at the moment, almost immeasurable freedom and liberty, and we should use it very responsibly. This is not a time to bedevil people. We have got to act—a newspaper—as a cohesive force of bringing together and not to divide, and at the same time to play the role not merely of being a mirror of events, but also to try, because a newspaper is not something, something that is majestic, that stands beyond criticism and that is a profit, but the newspaper, through its many, many years of existence, and newspaper people for as many years of work, they develop a sense, they develop an almost, you can say, unique way of feeling ahead what is wrong and what is required to bring remedy, and that is the role that we should play.

[Hendriks] As the last country in Africa moves towards independence, the role of the press has acquired new meaning. So has the role of the electronic media, which is controlled by a public corporation. Despite somewhat limited funds and expertise, the SWABC [South-West African Broadcasting Corporation], through its radio and television services, is expected to comply with the free and fair principles outlined in the settlement plan.

[Thornberry] We believe that public broadcasting in this country—because of the very high dependence, especially on radio, of a population the majority of which is illiterate—the responsibility of public broadcasting is very high indeed: to provide information in a relatively informed, detached, and objective way; to enable people to make an informed choice because, as you know, print journalism, although vigorous in this country, does not cover the whole area very well.

[Hendriks] The SWABC has come in for severe criticism from an influential study group committed to the implementation in letter and spirit of UN Security Council Resolution 435. In two reports on the electronic media, NPP 435 [Namibia Peace Plan 435] accused SWABC of favoring the status quo through selective choice of content and compilation of news bulletins. NPP 435 also called for the appointment of an editorial board to raise relevant issues and give direction in the news room.

[SWABC Chairman Piet Venter] The reports are based on frequency of appearance and duration. Quite often the programs that are selected for the analysis is not representative of all the programs that reflect these particular activities of these entities that have been identified. So there are quite a number of irregularities,

as far as genuine research is concerned. Obviously we are listening to it, because they may be perceptions, and one has to take cognizance of that. On the other hand, I think there are also complexities and also wishes and preferences of the real actors, the political parties, that are to be taken into account.

[Hendriks] With further pressure from UNTAG, the SWABC established a liaison committee with the 10 parties registered for the elections. An agreement was eventually hammered out, stipulating that political coverage was to be handled on an alphabetic rotational basis, with each party earmarking five meetings it wanted covered during the election campaign.

A 5-minute slot was also created to provide political parties with the opportunity to address the nation on their vision for a new Namibia. This, too, did not carry the blessing of NPP 435.

[NPP 435 Director Nahum Gorelick] It's almost a soft option for the SWABC. It's an easier option for them, because they don't then have to control any of that situation. In terms of editorial policy or editorial content, that is all decided by the liaison committee: the priority given to first item, second item, and third item, with respect to political rallies, the content given by the political parties in their slots, in their political forums, or whatever.

But the problem that we have with that—and we're speaking from NPP's perspective—is that the parties are actually discussing issues and if you take a back seat and you look at all of them at a distance, they are all saying exactly the same thing. So the information that is being passed is just purely political rhetoric, and not really crucial issues.

[Venter] It is not really taking the soft option. It is actually part of an effort to be impartial, because you'll appreciate that challenging, in itself. [sentence as heard] Even the tone could make a difference, and could be perceived as a particular attitude towards a political party. The type of question that you ask, a political party being questioned on a subject where it feels that it is rather vulnerable will obviously perceive or experience such a question as being biased.

[Thornberry] Some people have said that this is going to be the most heavily supervised election there has ever been in the history of the world. So we're not expecting the same standards of the electronic media. We are expecting a modicum of responsibility and objectivity, and we don't think that those standards are always being complied with.

[Smith] I praise the SWABC for what it has achieved in the past 4 to 6 months. I think it was a remarkable job that they have done, and I think nobody can say that you always achieve 100 percent results. You can never satisfy anyone. But I think it has converted itself into a fairly unbiased, fairly accurate, and very independent organ.

[Hendriks] The SWABC has also made air time available to UNTAG and the administrator general on both television and radio to inform the public of the latest developments in the independence process. But the media's greatest challenge still lies ahead: helping to heal the wounds of war and bridge the deep divisions in this diverse land.

[Venter] Of course, I think that is probably one of the prime responsibilities for a broadcasting corporation: to create a better future; to create better understanding; to encourage people to take hands and focus on whatever is ahead; and rather to remember the lessons of the past, but not the bitterness of the past.

[Lister] I do think there's a major task ahead, but I think if most newspapers in Namibia—once the elections have

been held—can turn their attention more towards reconciliation, more towards bringing about unity in Namibia, I think certainly that is one of the first aims, or should be one of the first priorities, of an independent government in Namibia. I think the media should support the government as much as possible in the sense that it also does promote nation building and reconciliation.

[Spies, in Afrikaans] These newspapers and the media in general will have to play a very large reconciliatory role. It will serve no purpose if we generate a new conflict out of the recent peace process. That would be very stupid.

[Hendriks] Whatever its shortcomings, the media in this desert land is alive and well, and no mirage.

Comoros

Voters Approve President's Third Term

EA0811210189 Antananarivo Domestic Service
in Malagasy 1600 GMT 8 Nov 89

[Text] The referendum which took place in the neighboring Comoros is over. The election results are known: The amendment to the Constitution and the approval once again for Mr Ahmed Abdallah to have a third term of office as the head of the Federal Islamic Republic of the Comoros were passed with 92 percent. The opposition party however rejected the results [words indistinct] troubles which occurred in the Comoros last Sunday [5 November].

Further on Election Results

EA0811212889 Mayotte Comoros Radio France
Overseas in French 1600 GMT 8 Nov 89

[Text] The Comoran Government has not yet released the official results of the constitutional referendum of last 5 November. All that is being spoken about is unofficial results. Out of 274,969 eligible to vote there were 269,009 voters: 259,781 votes were cast. The votes in favor are reported to have largely won. There were 240,281 votes in favor and [figure indistinct] against. Comorans have therefore opted for legally keeping President Abdallah in power.

Mauritius

Premier Cites 'Threat' of U.S. Fighter Planes

AB0811194789 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
1830 GMT 8 Nov 89

[Text] The Mauritian authorities are concerned about U.S. fighter planes in the Indian Ocean, which they now consider to be a threat. This concern was expressed at Parliament by Mauritian Prime Minister Sir Anerood Jugnauth, who criticized the U.S. presence in this region.

The Mauritian prime minister believes that the U.S. fighter planes represent a real danger in the Indian Ocean. Sir Anerood Jugnauth, who did not hide his indignation—or I should say his anger—implicitly accused the United States of wanting to transform the Indian Ocean, which was formerly a peaceful zone, into a conflict zone. He stressed that the issue of the U.S. presence in the Indian Ocean was recently raised by U.S. and Mauritian delegates at the council meeting of the Organization of Civil Aviation, which took place in Montreal in Canada, but no solution was found to this issue.

Mauritius, which has had every reason to be concerned over the past few months, even intends to refer the matter to the UN Security Council. But before embarking on this move, the Mauritian authorities expect good results from tomorrow's visit to Port Louis by Herman Cohen, U.S. deputy secretary of state for African affairs. This visit has been controversial, as could

be seen from the demonstrations in front of the U.S. Embassy last week in the Mauritian capital. The demonstrators, amounting to approximately 100 young people from the Militant Social Movement wing, called for the handing over of the Chagos Archipelago and the dismantling of the U.S. military base on Diego Garcia Island.

UN Appeal Planned

AB0811221889 Paris AFP in English 2141 GMT
8 Nov 89

[Excerpt] Port Louis, Nov 8 (AFP)—Mauritius intends alerting the U.N. Security Council to the dangers posed to civil aviation by U.S. warplane manoeuvres over the Indian Ocean, Prime Minister Anerood Jugnauth told Parliament. Replying to a query from opposition leader Prem Nababsing late Tuesday, Sir Anerood said two accidents had been only narrowly averted.

The United States kept refusing to notify the island government and others in the region what flight paths its military planes were using, he complained. [passage omitted]

Namibia

ANC Radio Comments on Elections

EA0811083789 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom
in English to South Africa 1900 GMT 7 Nov 89

[Station commentary]

[Text] Compatriots: At dawn today the warm rays of freedom finally shone bright for our neighboring brotherly people of Namibia as they went to the polls to decide their future. [Words indistinct] long hard (?road) of struggle against colonial rule, oppression and humiliation, for freedom, independence and self-determination.

This day saw the Namibian people writing a new page of the history of their people. [passage indistinct]. Indeed, in their voting today, the people of Namibia were on the one hand closing the last chapter of more than 7 decades of brutal apartheid [words indistinct] and on the other ushering in a new era, an era of self-determination as an independent, free and sovereign nation, an era of democracy. [passage indistinct].

The people of Namibia will today demonstrate their maturity in political consciousness by deciding decisively what they want their country to be like. The people of Namibia know from experience through bitter (?ways) of struggle that SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] is the only party that represents the real future [passage indistinct].

There is certainly no doubt, therefore, compatriots, that unless by a miracle or through sheer crude rigging of the electoral process, SWAPO must sweep the ballot boxes to lead the people of Namibia to their hard-won independence, nationhood and self-determination. A SWAPO victory will yet be another decisive victory for us, the oppressed but fighting people of South Africa. It

will signify yet another vindication of the justness of our cause for freedom, democracy and nonracialism in South Africa.

Let us today therefore stand united wherever we are with our brotherly people of Namibia as they go to the polls to write their new future under the leadership of SWAPO.

(?Honored banners everywhere), as we, too, continue with our actions of mass defiance (?and others) to rout the last colonial outpost from our soil, let us (?paint) the name of SWAPO and sue for a SWAPO victory. A decisive victory by this champion of the just struggle of the Namibian people will clearly mean that a day of this nature will no longer be far off on our land. It will not be long when we, too, will be casting our ballots for a government of the people, led by our vanguard movement, the African National Congress.

But compatriots, let us not lie on our laurels. Much still needs to be done in our country. Let us therefore, while inspired by this historic event that started today in Namibia, move forward with intensified mass political and military echelons to deliver the last blow to apartheid colonialism and [words indistinct] build a democratic [passage indistinct]. Let us press home the attack. Forward to intensified struggle to bury apartheid forever! SWAPO must win! Namibia must be free!

Voting Proceeds at 'Brisk' Pace 8 Nov

MB0811170889 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1601 GMT 8 Nov 89

[By Johann van Heerden]

[Text] Windhoek Nov 8 SAPA—Voting in Namibia's United Nations-supervised polls continued at a brisk pace on Wednesday after nearly 30 per cent of voters had registered their votes on the first day (Tuesday) [7 November] of the five-day polls ending on Saturday. "It looks as though the tempo has been maintained fairly well," an official spokesman, Mr David Venter, told a media briefing on Wednesday.

According to official figures, 29.9 per cent of the voters went to the polls on the first day in what diplomatic observers described as an unqualified success. Figures for Wednesday's voting are not expected to be available until long after the polls have closed at 7pm [1700 GMT].

Election reports from remote polling stations are not received before the next day, but official sources said that if the voting pattern continued close to 100 per cent of Namibians 701,000 votes should have been to the polls by Friday.

Voters queued in the blistering tropical sun outside polling stations where temperatures soared into the 30 degrees centigrade. An official spokesman, Mr Gerhard Roux, said that by Wednesday later afternoon no reports had been received of election violence. "The odd incident may arise where people jostle one another," he said.

The administrator-general, Mr Louis Pienaar, commended voters for their "patience and enthusiasm" in the election. Despite long waits, voters displayed enthusiasm and determination to cast their ballots, a UN spokesman Mr Fred Eckhard said. "By and large the process was orderly," he added.

The largest percentage poll on Tuesday was in eastern Caprivi where 55.9 per cent of the registered voters had voted. Reports had been received of smear pamphlets issued in the name of SWAPO and both Mr Pienaar and the UN special representative, Mr Martti Ahtisaari, had instructed a police investigation into the origin of the leaflets.

Mr Roux said Mr Pienaar had also ordered an investigation into the emplacement of DTA political posters near polling stations. In terms of election legislation, no political activity is allowed within a radius of 500m from polling booths.

Election stations are open from 7am to 7pm each day, but electoral officials are obliged to keep open polling booths if there are still voters waiting at the scheduled close. The Swakopmund on the Atlantic Coast voting continued until 11pm on Tuesday.

Reports from throughout Namibia said the processing of votes accelerated considerably as electoral officials, drawn from the government service, became better acquainted with their assignment and more efficient in dealing with problems.

Counting of the votes for the 72-members constituent assembly is expected to begin next Monday and to be completed by next Wednesday. Results of each of the 23 electoral districts will be announced as they become known, but the key result of Ovambo is expected last.

The region has the largest number of registered voters (248,272). There are 10 parties contesting the elections, but the major rivals are the DTA and SWAPO. Parties will be allocated representatives to the constituent assembly according to the number of votes polled for each party.

'Nearly 50 percent' Cast Ballots

MB0911054589 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0056 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Excerpts] Windhoek Nov 9 SAPA—Namibian voters go to polls on Thursday [9 November] for the third successive day after nearly 50 per cent of the over 701,000 voters have cast their ballots on the first two days of the five-day election. The rate of voting has picked up considerably after a few "teething problems" on the first day were resolved. [passage omitted]

On Wednesday night, official spokesmen said the latest returns from polling stations indicated that between 45 and 50 per cent of voters had already been to the polls. A number of returns from remote areas were unavailable, due mainly to communications problems, but should be available later on Thursday.

According to available statistics the southern coastal town of Luderitz has recorded the highest percentage of votes at 66.1 per cent of the number of registered voters. The figures made available only reflect ordinary ballots, Mr Roux pointed out, and do not include tendered ballots which are counted separately in Windhoek.

With results of 40 polling stations still outstanding, 102,978 or 44.9 per cent of voters in the populous northern region had gone to the polls on the first two days of the election. Voting districts that have recorded average of over 50 per cent are Bethanien 60.9, Gobabis 51.5, Kaokaland in the northwest 51.5, Maltahohe 57.8, Mariental 53.4, Okahandja 59.6, Omaruru 62.4, Otjiwarongo 58.5, Outjo 60.8 and Swakopmund, 59.4.

In Windhoek 50.8 per cent registered voters had cast their ballots by Wednesday. An inaccurate figure was given for eastern Caprivi on Tuesday, and officials hoped to have the correct statistic on Thursday, Mr Roux said.

Polling Slows to 'Trickle' 9 Nov

MB0911100289 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0955 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] Windhoek Nov 9 SAPA—Polling in Namibia slowed to a trickle on Thursday [9 November], compared to the hectic voting of the first two days in which 52.6 per cent of voters cast their ballots.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, Namibians queues for several street blocks in the capital city waiting to cast their votes, but no queues have built up outside polling stations in Windhoek on Thursday and voters arriving are helped within minutes.

According to the latest official statistics, 368,988 ordinary ballots were cast in the first two days of the five-day United Nations-supervised elections which end on Saturday. A further 39,546 tendered ballots were cast in the first two days of voting.

Tendered ballots are offered by people who arrive at polling stations without their voters registration cards and identity documents, and their votes are subject to their identities being verified by the central voters registry in Windhoek.

The key Ovambo election district registered the largest percentage poll at 64.5 per cent after the first two days. With 248,272 registered, Ovambo is the largest voting district in Namibia where the total number of voters is just more than 701,000.

Results for the election of a 72-member constituent assembly are expected to be announced from next Monday when counting begins in the 23 election districts. Ovambo's results are expected to be made available last by next Wednesday.

There are 10 political parties contesting the elections, but the main rivals are SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] and the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance.

DTA Accused of 'Forcing' Angolans To Vote

AB0811183289 Dakar PANA in English 1754 GMT
8 Nov 89

[Text] Windhoek, 8 Nov. (PANA)—United Nations officials in Windhoek were on Wednesday busy investigating disturbing reports that people from neighbouring Angola had been forced across the border to vote in Namibian elections.

UNTAG (United Nations Transition Assistance Group) spokesman Fred Eckhard said in Windhoek that the charges were levelled on Tuesday, the first day of the five-day elections, by a liberal legal organisation based in the Namibian capital.

The organisation, the Legal Assistance Centre, accused the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA), one of the main parties fighting the elections, of forcing Angolans, sometimes at gunpoint, across the border to vote for its party.

Eckhard said according to available information to UNTAG, DTA supporters, including former Koevoet and UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] elements, were responsible for organising the dirty affairs.

SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] information and publicity secretary said in Windhoek that he was not surprised at the reports. "We warned the world before of these kind of manoeuvres racist Pretoria was trying to do in order to rob SWAPO's overwhelming victory in the independence elections. But the press did not play it up well," he added. "It is possible that these people were registered but they are now resisting to play the mercenary by voting" Hamutenya said.

The SWAPO official, however, called upon its members and supporters to be vigilant at this crucial moment in the history of the country and expressed hope that the relevant authorities would handle the affair with the attention it deserves.

UNTAG representative for Rundu on the border with Angola, Linda Cohen, was reported Wednesday saying that people were rounded up at their residents in Angola and taken in DTA transport across the border. In a statement made to a member of the Namibian National Democratic Lawyers (Nadel) delegation currently visiting northern Namibia, it was mentioned that Angolans, who were also allegedly forced to obtain registration cards during registration process, were compelled to cross the Kavango River border at approximately 10 points along the river. The points were Shikenge, Kasote, Ekongora, Mazana, Rundu, Mayura, Kapako, Buya and Kayengona.

According to the statement the Angolans started crossing the river on Saturday, 4 November. On arriving in Namibia, buses took them to tribal offices where they received instructions on how to vote. The people stated that they did not want to get involved in the voting process at all, and they were forced to do so.

The number of people involved vary at the different crossing points. Sources at Rundu said they had received information that more than 100 people were transported across at Kayengona where they were held at the tribal offices of a chief, Angelina Matumbo Libebe.

More than 700,000 Namibians are expected to vote in the elections which is a key step towards ending 74 years of South African colonial rule. SWAPO, which waged a 23 year liberation war against Pretoria, is tipped to win the elections.

'Thousands' Reportedly Blocked From Voting

AB0811193089 Dakar PANA in English 1650 GMT
8 Nov 89

[Text] Windhoek, 8 Nov. (NAN/PANA)—There are indications that thousands of eligible black and Coloured voters in the employ of conservative whites in Namibia may not vote after all in the historic five-day Namibian elections which began on Tuesday, an investigation by the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) has shown.

White employers who own their private businesses are those most unwilling to release their black and Coloured employees to exercise their voting rights.

The reason, NAN gathered, was that the conservative whites are convinced that these categories of voters "were likely to vote for SWAPO" [South-West African People's Organization] which they are determined to stop from winning the elections at all cost.

Although there has been a large turn-out of black voters, there is an equally large number of this group who are anxious to vote, but have not been released from their duty posts. Some of the black voters said that their white employers were threatening them with loss of pay, while others said that they were given a day off regardless of whether they voted or not.

Others told NAN that their white employers allowed them to go to the polls only during lunch time which is between one o'clock and two o'clock in the afternoon. Some of the eligible voters told NAN that if they disobeyed their bosses, they might lose their jobs. Those interviewed said they had not been told outright not to vote.

However, the National Union of Namibian Workers has called on all employers in the country to allow their employees to vote in the current crucial elections. The spokesman of the Administrator-General's Office, Gerhard Roux, has also appealed to employers to give their workers some time to vote.

SWAPO Urges End to Intimidation Against Party

MB0911105689 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1041 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] Windhoek Nov 9 SAPA—SWAPO [South African People's Organization] was generally satisfied with the election campaign in Namibia, but the organisation on Thursday [9 November] urged authorities to stop alleged acts of intimidation against the party.

SWAPO Information Secretary Hidipo Hamutenya said in Windhoek SWAPO was not convinced the authorities were unaware of acts of intimidation by its main rival, the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance [DTA]. Barbed multi-shafted nails were strewn in the streets outside SWAPO homes and offices in Windhoek on Wednesday night, damaging six minibuses rented by SWAPO to ferry voters to the polls, Mr Hamutenya told a media briefing.

Earlier in the week, leftlets telling SWAPO voters to go to the polls only on Thursday and Friday were dropped from an aircraft in populous Ovambo, while other pamphlets were distributed offering payouts to SWAPO supporters.

Describing the pamphlets campaign as a last minute "fact of desperation" by the DTA, Mr Hamutenya said the authorities in Namibia were in a position to stop such disinformation campaigns. "We believe they are in a position to put a stop to it if they so choose," he said.

The administration was either condoning or covering up intimidatory acts. "Someone must know who owns this plane (in Ovambo)," Mr Hamutenya said. "It is not possible for a plane to fly around without anyone known who owns it and where it takes off from."

Mr Hamutenya said SWAPO was disturbed at "the slow pace" of polling which was owing to a shortage of polling stations around the country. SWAPO recommended to both the administrator-general, Mr Louis Pienaar, and the United Nations special representative Mr Martti Ahtisaari, to provide 600 polling stations instead of the just over 350 actually supplied.

Mr Hamutenya criticised "the privileged position" accorded the "spoilers from South Africa" voting at Windhoek airport. When SWAPO drove voters out to the airport at the less busy polling station, SWAPO was told the South Africans had paid their fares to come and vote and should not be subjected to delays.

"We are not about to accept apartheid here at this stage," he said. "These people have had the opportunity to vote in their own country in September." There was no reason why the people of Namibia should be made to wait for "foreigners" accorded a privileged position.

"Foreigners who have no interest in Namibia's destiny except to spoil the outcome of the election campaign and the voting," Mr Hamutenya said. SWAPO supporters had experienced no problems with the voting process

and the party was confident it would win a two thirds majority when results were announced next week.

Asked if the election could be considered free and fair with this form of intimidation, Mr Hamutenya said SWAPO believed those responsible for the maintenance of law and order would put a "brake" on these acts. "We believe too that they would like to see the election process going through and thereby to permit the special representative, Mr Ahtisaari of the UN secretary-general Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar to certify in clear conscience the result of the polling."

Zimbabwe

* Security in Beira Rail Corridor Praised

34000063e Harare *THE HERALD* in English
30 Sep 89 p 5

[Text] Security along the Beira Corridor is good and there was an 11 percent increase in Beira port traffic during the first six months of the year, Beira Corridor Group (BCG) general manager, Cde Kiri Chasi said here yesterday.

Commenting on reports that Zambian copper exports had been diverted to South Africa because of a security threat along the Beira Corridor, he said although there were minor attacks on the railway line, the security was good.

He said the railway line had been attacked twice this month and had been repaired in about one hour on both occasions.

He said 10,000 tonnes of Zambian copper had been diverted to Port Elizabeth because of the shortage of locomotives and wagons experienced by both Zimbabwean and Mozambican railway organisations.

Cde Chasi said since Zambia did not have its own wagons, the copper was loaded into South African Transport Services wagons which the South Africans did not want to operate in Mozambique.

"Also the question of a security threat is out and the only problem was a shortage of wagons."

He said once the copper was in Zimbabwe, it had to be off-loaded into either Zimbabwean or Mozambican Railways wagons but since there were no wagons at the time, the traffic was diverted to South Africa.

Cde Chasi said there had been an 11 percent increase in port traffic in the first six months of the year amounting to 770,100 tonnes and should the trend continue, the claimed capacity of 1.5 million tonnes could be reached.

"Although overall there was 11 percent increase in port traffic, Zimbabwe traffic registered a nil increase, Malawi traffic decreased by 9 percent and Zambia traffic, only copper, increased by 19 percent," said Cde Chasi.

Cde Chasi said there had also been an increase in the number of ships using Beira port, adding that developments at the port were "encouraging."—ZIANA.

* Conflict of Interest Charged in Media Takeover

34000063c Harare *THE HERALD* in English
28 Sep 89 p 1

[Text] In one of the biggest changes in the mass media in Zimbabwe since independence, Modus Publications—publishers of *THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE* and various trade magazines—has been taken over by a group of local businessmen led by the group managing director of Zimbabwe Newspapers, Cde Elias Rusike.

The two other businessmen in the group were yesterday identified as Cde Rusike's business partner in Flexible Packaging, Cde Fanwell Muhwati, and Cde Eric Kahari of Lion of Zimbabwe Insurance.

Cde Rusike is understood to hold the controlling shares.

Because of the conflict of interest between his stake in Modus and his job at Zimbabwe Newspapers, Cde Rusike on Wednesday submitted his resignation as group managing director to the Minister of Information, Posts and Telecommunications, Cde Witness Mangwende. The group owns *THE HERALD*, *THE CHRONICLE*, *THE SUNDAY MAIL*, *THE SUNDAY NEWS*, *MANICA POST* and *KWAYEDZA*.

It is now known that the new owners of Modus entered into agreement to buy Modus almost six months ago, but this was kept secret until this week. This has raised questions in Government circles about the extent of the conflict of interest.

None of those involved were prepared to comment publicly on the takeover yesterday. But strong rumours that a black journalist was soon to be appointed to understudy the *FINANCIAL GAZETTE*'s editor-in-chief, Mr Clive Wilson, for takeover in two years, were denied yesterday.

The spokesman for the new owners, who refused to be identified, said that the black journalist in question would not be considered for such a post as he would be in "political trouble."

Modus is understood to have been sold for a sum in the region of \$2 million although the company is conservatively estimated to be worth about \$4 million.

Although no one at the Zimbabwe Mass Media Trust could comment on the takeover yesterday, *THE HERALD* has it on good authority that the trust had declared its intention [words indistinct] all of Modus or a part together with the group of businessmen led by Cde Rusike.

Interest

The trust became interested in Modus after widespread rumours started circulating early this year that it was for sale.

These rumours were repeatedly denied by Mr Wilson and his partner, Mr Clive Murphy—who is staying on as executive director—in an attempt to make it appear that nothing had changed. But this week it became clear that there was a great deal of substance to the rumours.

Mr Wilson and Mr Murphy are understood to have met Government officials about the sale yesterday afternoon, when it was made clear that the trust was still interested in investing in Modus. How this can be done now that the deal has been concluded is unclear.

The chairman of the trust, Dr Davison Sadze, who wrote to Modus declaring the trust's interest is out of the country on media business.

Modus staff were yesterday told of the change although not the names of their new employers, in a letter from Mr Wilson, who is also managing director of the group.

In it, he referred only to a "consortium of local businessmen" and said he hoped this would "lay to rest the speculation that has been caused by various rumours circulating over the past weeks."

He reassured staff about their security of employment, and said both he and Mr Murphy would remain on as directors. Although there would be "one or two new faces," nothing much would change. Mr Wilson will remain as editor-in-chief.

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